

Dear (OTP) Otter Tail Power Company,

We are responding to your question of reason for the denial of the Conditional Use Permit regarding the JetX project presented to the Wano Township Zoning Committee.

The Wano Township Comprehensive Plan states as follows but not limited to the following reasons and/or precautions.

Goal #1, Policy 4. Encourage siting public facilities and utility easements in locations, which would minimize interference with farming.

Goal #2, Policies 1-4.

1. Discourage nonagricultural development on fertile soils.
2. Prevent undesirable, incompatible land uses from locating in the Township unless they meet appropriate conditions.
3. Make land use decisions in accordance with this plan.
4. Deter offensive and incompatible land use from locating near dwellings and communities.

Goal #4, Policies 2-3.

2. Actively solicit public opinion about land use decisions.
3. Consider using citizen input when making public decisions.

The Wano Township Zoning Regulation states as follows but not limited to the following reasons and/or precautions.

6.16 Utilities

1. The term "utilities" includes, but is not limited to, electric power, electrical transmission lines, wind conversion systems, commercial wind generators, dams, electrical and telephone towers and substations, natural gas pipelines, the petroleum product pipelines, water and sewer lines, telephone lines and other above ground or underground communication and energy transfer lines and pipelines.
2. All pipelines, natural gas, petroleum pipelines and other energy transfer lines shall be placed deep enough into the ground so as to not interfere with or becomes hazardous to normal farming operations

8.2.6 Standards

- 8.2.6.1 That the establishment, maintenance or operation of the conditional use will not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare.

- 8.2.6.2 That the uses, values and enjoyment of other property in the neighborhood for purposes already permitted shall be in no foreseeable manner substantially impaired or diminished by the establishment, maintenance or operation of the conditional use.
- 8.2.6.3 That the establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district. That adequate utilities, access roads, drainage and other necessary site improvements have been or are being provided.

We are citing that the contract is not clear according to prospected landowners contacted to sign easements. The contract is not clear on what type of easement they are signing. Is it a strip easement or blanket easement? Many concerns have also arisen that if they sign the easement, according to the contract, the easement can be sold, given away, transferred, etc. to other project developers. In that case landowners are concerned for their property rights and future projects on their land without having future authority on their land. This project is trying to be pushed through very quickly which is alarming, especially when bills are trying to be passed into law punishing local government if they interfere with such projects.

Randy Christmann of the Public Service Commission opposed the MDU and OTP joint application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. He also wrote a letter of dissent which also raised many concerns and brought to our attention a few unanswered questions. (See Attachment)

This power line will not benefit our local power cooperatives that supply power to the rural areas but is proposed to be built on the rural areas that our local power cooperatives supply power to. The liability of this power line is on the landowners, and they do not want to take on this liability. Thoughts and input of the landowners asked to sign these contracts should be considered and able to revise and review the stipulations in the contracts to have common, agreeable terms and transparency.

In addition, MISO has been referred to by OTP representatives. We have not seen or been contacted by any MISO representatives to provide clarity on this project. This is projected as Tranche 1 or "phase one" of an 18 Tranche project. Future benefits, repercussions, obstacles, and property rights, to name a few things, have not been discussed. We would like to meet with MISO representatives, in person, before any conditional use permit is potentially granted. Transparency has been very vague to what the future plans are if this power line is constructed. Honesty is the best policy. That has not been the case here. The trust and the respect from the land owners has been lost. We are here to represent the people that have elected us to local government and we hereby with the majority of the people oppose the Jetx project. Thank you.